

Hamilton Cycling Committee (HCyC) Minutes July 7, 2010
City Hall, Boardroom 192

Committee Members in Attendance:

Marisa DiCenso	Jordan Fysh	Pauline McKinley
Brad Tyleman	Robert Brown	Tarquin Adams

Regrets: Tom Ellis, Sean Burak, Dave Thompson, Robert Corsini, Walter Furlan, Liz Duval, Andrea Kita

Visitors: Mark Risdale, Catherine Pan (Sierra Planning & Management), Ariana Freire (Novita)

Staff: Daryl Bender

1. Introductions:
 - Tarquin served as Chair. Everyone introduced themselves.
2. Approval of Minutes:
 - Minutes for June 2 were deferred until the August meeting.
3. Issues arising from Previous Minutes:
 - none
4. Para/PanAm Games Velodrome consultation:

Potential Role for HCC in Velodrome:

Role in marketing cycling and the facility to various social, cultural and age groups
Education of cyclists (safe cycling practices)

Preferred Location for Velodrome:

- Support West Harbour location as well as other downtown locations
- Within urban envelope and in vicinity of downtown in order to ensure accessibility to all Hamiltonians
- Limits for consideration would be McMaster (westerly), Ivor Wynne stadium area easterly, water to the north, escarpment to the south (keep it in the lower city)
- The above limits have the best transit service in the whole of the city - which is important.
- Accessibility to highways is important and the downtown is accessible from the highway (there are many ways to get downtown – there is a misconception that the downtown is not as easily accessed as locations off the new Lincoln Alexander Parkway)
- Schools should be able to take advantage
- Community orientation is important
- A location on the urban fringe will alienate/limit access for poorer people
- There is a psychological barrier for some Hamiltonians who believe the West Harbour area is unsafe; however there is gentrification and a revival occurring in the area and perception is shifting. With time, the group believes this conception will change
- The proposed West Harbour site is the last area in this part of town that is still derelict – the project could help change the West Harbour area for the better if located there
- West Harbour is connected to trails, which is a benefit
- West Harbour also provides excellent access to Niagara and Burlington and is near the proposed new GO Station (James St.)
- Proximity to McMaster (but not directly on the campus) would be a good thing - on campus could be a barrier to the broader community
- Ivor Wynne is also a great location which is City owned
- King St. nearby is a preferred route for the new LRT
- Consider other properties along Hwy 403 - in vicinity of King St, Main St or Aberdeen (Kay Drage, etc.)
- A vacant city block downtown, such as the parking lot at Main & Bay would also be a suitable site

Co-Location of the Velodrome with the Stadium and Outdoor Track: (Good & Bad)

G Possible savings from co-location in that it would be possible to share facilities (a hub)

G Synergies from locating in same precinct – e.g. Copps Coliseum, etc. all in same area

B Concern that if all three components are built together, the larger facility (football) and its crowds would take over

B Parking and traffic concerns with co-location

B Concern that there would be competition for parking and public transit if events are held at the same time

- B Difficulty with three organizations on a single site who will have differing and sometimes conflicting interests, goals, roles – potential for conflict and for the larger facility to win out
- B How the velodrome roof will be constructed (material or hard roof) makes a difference to the co-location question; if made of material, increased concerns about noise, vibration from adjacent venues
- G Opportunities to fill gaps in athletic programs (e.g. lack of soccer fields)

Desired Facility Features and Components

Needs:

- Secure lock up for bikes (both track bicycles and others)
- Numerous bike racks outside facility for commuters
- Café/food service (for athletes & crowd)
- Medical facilities
- Flexible meeting space (use as class room, board room, media room as needed)
- Showers and change rooms (male and female)
- Washrooms for spectators/public
- Washrooms for cyclists
- Storage
- Office/administrative space (NCCH, McMaster Kinesiology, etc.)
- Workshop space/repairs

Wants:

- Rest /sleep area for athletes (can be combined with other functions)
- Weight room (could be commercial provider) - even a full fledged facility of a private fitness company (more than just weights)
- Youth centre/community centre component
- Flexible use of centre ring - Obstacle course , track & field, etc.
- Office space for sports associations
- Retail (cycling & tourism)

Features:

- LEED certification
- Built with other “low-fi” sustainability features in mind
- Natural light
- Local steel materials

Desired Management Model:

- Manager with business acumen and interest in cycling (possibly existing organizations dealing with cycling or fitness) , OR ability to learn cycling perspective is most important if no experience
- Management must be mindful of promotion to ensure a high level of activity
- City management not desired - consider an RFP
- Precedent for mixed model in golf course management (City staff manage (are used) , but deficits need to be made up by facility – can't come from tax base)
- Concern over deficit – important that tax payers not foot the bill

5. Other Business:

- none

6. Announcements:

- none

7. Adjournment.

8. Next Meeting:

- Wed. Aug 4, 2010, City Hall, Boardroom 192

Post meeting notes (for completeness of velodrome comments):

- 1) The Waterfront/West Harbour location is further "good" as it is in close proximity to both on-road & off-road cycling facilities.
- 2) Given that it has now been announced that Track & Field is no longer planned for the Hamilton stadium - there will be a loss of synergy in locating the two facilities beside each other.